

10/072,402

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending and stand rejected.

Claims 2-6 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 14, and 20 have been currently amended. Claim 1 was amended to incorporate the descriptions of the hydrophobic backbone found in cancelled claims 4 and 5, as well as the polymers originally disclosed on page 3, lines 16 to 18. Claim 14 was amended to describe a detergent and cleaning composition (supported by disclosure on page 1, line 9) and to incorporate the description of the graft polymer as claimed in the original claim 1. Claim 20 was amended to properly renumber the claim as claim 20 (rather than claim 17) and to properly cite claim 19 from which it depends.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Arfaei, U.S. Patent Number 4,960,465. The Arfaei reference describes a polymeric cement additive which is a polyether backbone and side chains that are polymerized from ethylenically unsaturated monomers.

As amended, Applicant's claim 1 requires that the backbone be polymerized solely from the group of listed monomers. The group does not include polyethers. Further, while Col. 2, lines 45 and 46 describe that the polyether may include reactive groups such as amino groups, none of the Examples show an amine or amide graft. One of skill in the art would not be motivated by the teaching of a polyether backbone to practice a backbone that is not a polyether, and further would not have motivation to produce an amine or amide graft on even a non-polyether, when such functionality is not shown in the Examples to be required.

As amended, Applicant's claim 14 describes the originally claimed graft polymer in a detergent or cleaning composition, along with one or more ingredients typically found in such a detergent or cleaning composition. The Arfaei reference describes a polymer for use in flowable cementitious compositions. The Arfaei not only fails to teach or suggest Applicant's claimed limitations to a detergent or cleaning composition, but the Arfaei references teaches away from such an use by describing only cement applications.

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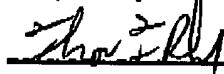
Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing is a complete response to the office action and requests the Examiner to remove all rejections and pass the application to issuance at this time.

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Respectfully submitted,



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